

A collection of black and white stars of various sizes arranged in a circular pattern around the title.

OdySsey 2004

Friday,
October 22, 2004

Michigan Historical Center



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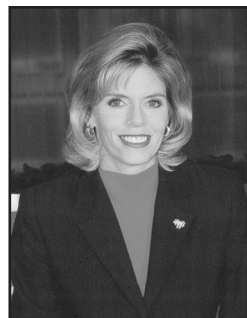
Odyssey 2004

Dear Friends of Michigan History:

Welcome to Odyssey 2004 and to one of Michigan's cultural jewels — the Michigan Historical Center!

I'm delighted to host this special evening celebrating schools, teachers and Michigan's history.

Special thanks go to Patron Sponsors, AAA Michigan, Mid-Michigan MRI, Inc., General Motors-Lansing Operations, Ingham Regional Medical Center, and to you.



Your generous support of Odyssey 2004 makes you a member of the Michigan Historical Center's education team, bringing kids and history together with special classroom, after-school and weekend experiences. From "Grandma and Grandpa's Memories" to tin punching, bartering and living the life of a lumberjack, you are creating education and fun for Michigan's children.

While you're here tonight, why not make a little history fun yourself? Greet old friends and take this opportunity to meet new ones. Sketch a Muse. Make a bid. Write on a slate. Enjoy!

Thanks again for your support!

Sheri Jones
WLNS Newscenter 6

2004 Odyssey Awards

Key to all successful instructional programs are the dedicated teachers who inspire their students and instill in them a passion for learning. Our outstanding 2004 Odyssey Award winners are:

Kristie Clark

Floyd Elementary — Bullock Creek School District

Rosemary Claus

Crescentwood Elementary — East Detroit Public Schools

Angela Kava

Kalamazoo Academy — Independent Kalamazoo School

Ellie O'Donnell

Franklin Elementary — Escanaba Area Public Schools

Each of these Odyssey recipients will receive a plaque made of Michigan agate and a \$500 award.



P.O. Box 17035, Lansing, MI 48901
Phone: 517-373-2565 FAX: 517-241-3647

Evening Activities

Meet the 2004 Odyssey Award Recipient  *First Floor*

6:00 pm to 6:30 pm

Tommaso Juglaris:
A Capitol Artist Exhibit

Dinner and Silent Auction  *Second Floor*

6:30 pm to 8:00 pm

Michigan: The Early Years Galleries

**Featuring Michigan wines
and Catering by The Cadillac Club**

**Entertainment: Agarose String Quartet
Okemos High School**

Program  *First Floor—Forum*

8:15 pm to 9:00 pm

Agarose String Quartet
Okemos High School

Host:

Sheri Jones
WLNS Newscenter 6

Appreciation of Teachers:

The Honorable Clifford Taylor
Michigan Supreme Court Justice

Desserts & Coffee  *First Floor—Rotunda*

9:00 pm



Michigan Historical Center Foundation

Mission Statement

The Michigan Historical Center Foundation's purposes are:

- to secure and provide financial support for the Michigan Historical Center, and
- to increase private and public sector knowledge, appreciation and support of the Michigan Historical Center's state-wide responsibility for museum, archival records, archeological, historic site preservation and other Michigan human history education programs.

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Odyssey 2004 Award Judges

Special thanks to those individuals who gave their time and support in assisting us in judging the nominations for this year's Odyssey Award recipients:

Kris Ely
2001 Award Winner

Karen Todorov
Michigan Department of Education

Linda Hamilton
2000 Award Winner

Joanne Welihan
MEMSPA

Eric Petro
2000 Award Winner

Robert Ulrich
2003 Award Winner

Ellen Sprouls
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Odyssey Winners Get an A+

By Carolyn Damstra

Instead of bringing her students to the farm, Ellie O'Donnell brings the farm into the classroom—pigs and all. Rosemary Claus takes her students on an all-day trek from Anchor Bay to Lake Huron. The students in Angela Kava's class starred in a patriotic musical in the rotunda of the State Capitol, and Kristie Clark's students formed a button company to learn about Henry Ford's assembly line.

Creative teaching methods are one reason why these educators were chosen to receive the 2004 Odyssey Awards. The Michigan Historical Center Foundation's annual awards recognize the best Michigan history teachers in the state. Odyssey winners are chosen based on knowledge, creativity, and leadership in making Michigan's past come alive for their students. This year's four winners get an A+ in demonstrating these qualities.

Ellie O'Donnell

- School: Franklin Elementary, Escanaba Area Public Schools
- Years of teaching: 34
- Favorite period in Michigan history: "The Upper Peninsula, 1860s to the 1950s. There was so much going on here."
- Favorite place in Michigan: Fayette Historic Townsite and Greenfield Village
- Inspiration: "My Father. Whenever we went on a trip, we started in the Lower Peninsula and went to all the historic sites and museums."

Ellie O'Donnell served as a leader in the effort to restore Sand Point Lighthouse in Escanaba. Now she and her students can walk from their school to the light and adjoining museum where they



can explore the past hands-on. A collector, O'Donnell also brings objects from the past into the classroom, hosting a sort of *Antiques Roadshow* where students have to guess an object's purpose. "It's so exciting to see their language and knowledge develop over the school year, they really look at things differently," O'Donnell says.

When the second graders in her class visit a nearby one-room school, they wear clothing from pioneer days, and the parents pack a lunch in a metal box with foods of the past (no chips or soda). A curriculum director commented, "Not only are her lessons motivating for her students, but she uses them as springboards for developing higher levels of historical understanding. When you see the plays her students have written or hear them discuss the history of our National Anthem, it is hard to believe they are only second-grade students!"

Rosemary Claus

- School: Crescentwood Elementary, East Detroit Public Schools
- Years of teaching: 11
- Favorite period in Michigan history: "I like them all. I encourage my students to do their own research and learn about what interests them."
- Favorite place in Michigan: "Anywhere in the woods or the beach."
- Inspiration: "Just living here."

Rosemary Claus loves to teach about Michigan's explorers and the diversity of people who made an impact on the state. She is an explorer herself, having visited all fifty states except one (North Dakota). According to Crescentwood principal



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Linda Johnson, Claus's "depth of knowledge about Michigan acquired through years of travel and study are legendary." Claus shares her wanderlust by getting her students out of the classroom and into Michigan's many museums and natural areas. She is also a leader among her peers, serving on the district's social studies curriculum committee and as a resource person for other teachers.

Kristie Clark

- School: Floyd Elementary, Bullock Creek School District
- Years of teaching: 5
- Favorite period in Michigan history: "The Depression. You can bring a lot of reality to the students."
- Favorite place in Michigan: Grand Haven
- Inspiration: "I just love the state. I love camping and boating."



Kristie Clark leads her students in creating history-related videos on a variety of subjects such as Dow Chemical Company, bats and bat houses and the Pere Marquette Rail Trail. These projects make students aware of history in their backyard. According to Floyd Elementary principal Rod Dishaw, Clark makes Michigan history "not only exciting and informative, but also applicable to each student's everyday life." Her students have also participated in the Michigan Collaborative Project where students exchange information about their community by teleconference with another fourth grade class in Michigan.

Angela Kava

- School: Kalamazoo Academy (independent school)
- Years of teaching: 6
- Favorite period in Michigan history: "Native Americans, the Three Fires. I take my students out to the nature center where they can experience what it was like for a Potawatomi to live."
- Favorite place: Mackinac Island
- Inspiration: "I love to get kids excited about Michigan."



Angela Kava believes in a hands-on, multidisciplinary approach: "I bring Michigan into everything we do throughout the year. When I teach geology, we learn about geology and rock formations in Michigan." She learned a lot about the state through an Excellence in Education grant that allowed her to travel throughout the Lower Peninsula. During this trip she planned an overnight trip for her students to Michilimackinac. One of her students on this trip exclaimed that this was "the best field trip ever," recalling how they cooked their own soup and dressed up as Redcoats.

Her enthusiasm is what also makes her an effective teacher. Kalamazoo Academy director Sheila M. Bridenstine says that Kava, "like America's very best teachers, is at heart a learner who engenders respect and admiration from those who surround her."

Carolyn Damstra is an assistant editor for *Michigan History*, *Michigan History for Kids* and *The Mitten*.

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*Salutes the state's
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Past Odyssey Award Recipients

Odyssey 2000

Linda Hamilton (Richmond Community Schools)
Linda Kidd (Bloomfield Hills Public Schools)
Pennie Morrison (Hazel Park Public Schools)
Eric Petro (Albion Public Schools)
Dorothy Runyon (Haslett Public Schools)
Carol Trojanowski (Laingsburg Community Schools)
Carol VanEck (Grand Rapids Public Schools)

Odyssey 2001

Alice Brobst-Walsh (Milan Public Schools)
Kris Ely (St. Johns Public Schools)
Beth Hanna (Berkley School District)
Constance Pacioni (Utica Community Schools)
Raenette Palmer (Petoskey Public Schools).

Odyssey 2002

Deanna Barcey (Waterford Public Schools)
Linda Krauss (Olivet Community Schools)
Sr. Marie Pauline Skalski (Diocese of Lansing)
Barb Teahen (Howell Public Schools)
Linda Yeager (Diocese of Lansing).

Odyssey 2003

Barb Austin, Jan Dodge, Jeff Joneson (Harbor Springs Public Schools)
Catherine Bulera (N.I.C.E. Community Schools)
David Follis (Camden-Frontier Schools)
Robert Ulrich (East Lansing Public Schools)
Linda Williams (Independent Wayne County School)

